

MISCELLANEOUS UNDATED AND RECENT FEATURES

Undated Features

The features described in this section could not be assigned with certainty to any particular time period. They include the stone foundation remains of a large outbuilding, a dry-laid stone floor with the stone outbuilding, stone demolition rubble, and twenty one posthole/molds.

Feature 32 - Mortared stone foundation remains

Feature 32 (N26W44-49, backhoe excavation) was the mortared stone foundation remains of a large two-sided stone outbuilding in the south yard approximately 45 feet south of the tavern/house foundation. The north wall was 36 feet long and the west wall was 16 feet long (Plate 52). Both were two feet wide. There was no indication of stone foundation remains associated with the south or east walls. However a stone pier and posthole along the south and two large square postholes, possibly for structural beams, along the east indicate that this part of the structure may have been partly open or constructed of wood. Features 45 and 66, the remains of two separate stone floors, were located within Feature 32, and a large cut-stone slab that was probably an entranceway was located at the southeast corner of Feature 32 (see Figure 36). The interior of the structure at the west end contained 13 discrete levels of fill, of which at least two appear to have been laid in order to level the ground surface at this end with the east end. Feature 66 was laid over these two fill levels. Beneath the fill levels was a thin very dark gray (10YR 3/2) band of silty loam interpreted as an anthrosol. A sample of this soil was taken for soil chemistry analysis. The only artifacts recovered from this soil were non-diagnostic amber bottle fragments, a pine knot, brick and mortar fragments, post-1790 manufactured cut nails, and pre-1864 manufactured windowpane fragments. No builder's trench was encountered. Features 28, 35, 42, and 44 are all postholes that form a line between Features 32 and 45. These features have been described in the Feature 45 discussion.

Features 36 and 37 (N26W44)

Features 36 and 37 were also post molds possibly associated with Feature 32; however they were located on the exterior, rather than interior, of the structure. Feature 36 was a 0.7 foot square that extended 0.3 feet into the subsoil from which one nail fragment was recovered, and Feature 37 was a 1 foot by 0.3 foot rectangle that extended 0.25 feet into subsoil from which no artifacts were recovered. Both consisted of yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) sandy clay.

Feature 66 - Dry laid stone floor

Feature 66 was a stone floor within Feature 32, as was the adjacent Feature 45 (described above) (see Figure 36). Feature 66 had been built up with a mixed sandy gleyed clay fill to be at same level as Feature 45 and was constructed with smaller stones in an irregular pattern (Plate 53). Feature 45 overlay a thin layer of sand and gravel which rested directly over subsoil. It was constructed with larger, more regularly placed stones. There

was a two foot space between the two floors. An Aob horizon, or anthrosol, beneath the fill yielded two non-dateable liquor bottle fragments, a pine knot, cut nails, pre-1864 windowpane glass, and brick and mortar fragments. Feature 66 was approximately thirteen feet wide, from north to south, and at least ten feet long, although the overlying asphalt drive was not fully removed for the excavation of this feature. A profile view, however, suggests that this floor continued perhaps another ten feet to the west.

Feature 54 - Demolition rubble

Feature 54 appeared to be stone rubble. It was located east of Feature 60 and south of Feature 30 beneath a layer of sand and mortar. It is possibly associated with the demolition of Features 32 and/or Feature 60.

Postholes/molds

Feature 25 (N80W55) was a round posthole and mold located in the back yard. It measured 1.0 by 0.6 feet and extended 0.5 feet into the subsoil. Artifacts from the feature included glass fragments, coal, clinkers, brick and plaster fragments.

Feature 26 (N59W38) and Feature 27 (N62W59) were post holes located southwest of the house foundation. Feature 26 was 1 foot square and extended 0.6 feet into the subsoil. No artifacts were recovered. Feature 27 was a 1.1 foot diameter stain and extended 0.4 feet into subsoil. Yellowware, whiteware, redware, a cut nail, a bone fragment, and coal were recovered. The TPQ is 1830.

Feature 34 (N18W03) was a round posthole located near the standing stucco wall and was dug through Feature 81, a bottle dump. The feature was seen at the base of Level 2, about 1.3 feet below surface, and extended 0.5 feet into the subsoil to a total depth of 1.8 feet below surface. Only a metal barrel band fragment and a cut nail were recovered.

Feature 38 (N63W100) was a rectangular posthole with a round post mold. It was located near the western edge of the excavations. The feature measured 0.2 by 0.35 feet and extended 1.8 feet into the subsoil. Cut nails, redware, coal, and brick fragments were recovered.

Feature 39 (N75W15) was 1.3 foot square and extended 1.1 feet into the subsoil. A piece of a metal shelf bracket was recovered.

Feature 40 (N68W50) was a posthole located about twelve feet west of the southwest corner of the tavern/house structure. It did not extend into the subsoil, but was dug through a layer of fill and subsequently covered by two layers of fill. It measured about 1.0 feet in diameter and extended from 0.5 to 1.05 feet below the ground surface. One piece of brick was recovered.

Feature 50 (N40W04) was a circular posthole located near the standing stucco wall that parallels Route 202. Only a portion of the feature was exposed at the north end of the

unit. It appeared to be 1.4 feet in diameter and extended 0.4 feet into the subsoil. Redware drain tile fragments, cut nails, bone, and several grams of mortar were recovered.

Feature 52 (N29W03) was a 0.9 foot diameter circular post hole located three feet west of the standing stucco wall paralleling Route 202. It extended 0.35 feet into the subsoil. No artifacts were recovered.

Feature 53 (N18W06) was a 1.5 foot square post hole that began below Level 3 and extended through the bottle dump (Feature 81) and continued 0.9 feet into subsoil. The total depth of the feature was 2.4 feet. Artifacts recovered included nails, oyster shell, a redware sherd, a whiteware sherd and two glass fragments. The TPQ is post-1820.

Feature 55 (N03W20) was a circular 0.6 foot diameter posthole that extended 0.8 feet into the subsoil. It was located less than 0.5 feet west of Feature 54 and approximately two feet west of Feature 74. Metal, bone, plaster, and a silver plated ornament were recovered.

Features 56, 57, 58, and 59 were postholes found in Backhoe Trench 2 that formed an east-west trending line. This line ran parallel to the existing chain link fence that separates the north plowed field from the unplowed north yard. Feature 56 was a 1 foot square post that extended 1.5 feet into the subsoil; Feature 57 was a 1.1 by 1.3 foot rectangular posthole that extended .5 feet into the subsoil; Feature 58 was a 1 foot square posthole that extended .75 feet into the subsoil; and Feature 59 was a 1 foot square posthole that extended .5 feet into the subsoil. Two pieces of redware, a spirits bottle fragment, bone, and oyster shell were recovered from the four postholes. These posts may have served, at an earlier time in the site's use, as a divider between yard and agricultural zones. A fence line is shown in this location on the 1917 Price and Price map.

Feature 61 (S56W08) was located near the standing stucco wall in the south field. It was a 1 foot square post hole, and it extended 0.3 feet into the subsoil. One redware fragment was recovered.

Feature 62 (S36W08) was located near the standing stucco wall in the south field. The feature was a 0.9 by 1.3 foot rectangular posthole that was discovered at the base of the plowzone and extended 0.4 feet into the subsoil. Whiteware, glass, nails, and a glazed brick were recovered. The TPQ is 1820.

Feature 63 (S56W31) was found in the south field about 35 feet west of the standing stucco wall. It consisted of a .9 foot circular post hole. It was found at the base of the plowzone and extended 1.0 feet into the subsoil. The feature produced no cultural material.

Feature 67 was a rectangular posthole and mold just outside the southwest corner of the foundation remains of Feature 60. It measured 1.5 by 1 feet and extended into the subsoil 0.8 feet. No artifacts were recovered.

Feature 74 was a 0.8 foot square post found under Feature 54. No artifacts were recovered.

Feature 79 was a 1 foot square post hole and mold located beneath the northwest quarter of Feature 45. It extended 1 foot into the subsoil. Nails, bone, and oyster shell fragments were recovered.

Late Twentieth –Century Features

The following three features, a stone support pier, a large water line and the remains of a brick walkway appear to post-date the Du Pont Dairy operation, and all probably post-date the middle of the twentieth century.

Feature 7 - Stone pier

Feature 7 (N120 W40) consisted of an ashy gray soil mixed with coal slag in the vicinity of the north yard midden excavations. The feature was one foot south of the midden and had in association a series of stones that appear to have been a piling or support pier (Plate 54). The stones may have supported a porch addition that appears in early twentieth-century photos. Mortar, nails, and windowpane glass were recovered from the feature soil around the stones. A post-1851 hard rubber button was found beneath that soil, and the TPQ, based on that button is 1851. However, it is more likely that it is part of a twentieth-century porch addition that does not appear on the 1917 Price and Price map, but does appear on the 1953 DelDOT map.

Feature 20 – Water main trench

Feature 20 was a large water main that bisected the house foundation. It ran parallel to Route 202 and post-dates the 1977 destruction of the house.

Feature 31 - Brick walkway

Feature 31 (N26W44) was the remains of a brick walkway (Plate 55). It was superimposed over Features 32 and 45, oriented in a north-south direction. It was 2 feet wide, and 6 feet of its length remains. The bricks appear to have been laid in two layers and subsequently covered by another layer of fill and gravel and partly paved over by an asphalt drive. This feature post-dates both features 32 and 45.